

Reprise Editor's Note

NINA MORGAN

David Bradley's long-held interest in American history and his reputation as one of the nation's most original thinkers on race make him the perfect person to write an introduction to Benjamin Rush for our *JTAS* readers. Winner of the 1982 Pen/Faulkner award and an Academy Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters for his novel *The Chaneyville Incident* (1981), Bradley has demonstrated striking versatility in form and skill in social commentary that have been recognized with national and international awards: His short story "You Remember the Pin Mill" (2014) won the O. Henry Prize and his essay "A Eulogy for Nigger" (2015) won the Notting Hill Editions Essay Prize. Having written for *Esquire*, *Redbook*, *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Philadelphia Magazine*, *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, *Dissent*, *Narrative*, *Brevity*, and *Tri-Quarterly* and other journals, Bradley is known for the range and diversity of his writing, whether fiction, non-fiction or "creative nonfiction," and for his deep engagement with historical and political concerns; his comments on figures from Ulysses S. Grant to Mark Twain for public television and his lectures and essays on American writers such as Paul Laurence Dunbar, William Melvin Kelley, Mark Twain, and Richard Wright have earned him respect as a cultural critic. David Bradley earned his BA *summa cum laude* in Creative Writing from the University of Pennsylvania and his MA from the Institute for United States Studies, Kings College, University of London. He has taught at a number of universities, including Temple University, Colgate University, MIT, the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, The College of William and Mary, The Michener Center at the University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Oregon. Bradley's works in progress include three projects: *The Bondage Hypothesis: Meditations on Race, History and America*; a collection of essays, *Lunch-Bucket Pieces*; and a novel in stories, *Raystown*.

We are excited to publish David Bradley's "Benjamin Rush's Travels Toward Peace" as a fresh interpretation of a fascinating, mostly forgotten and here republished text by Benjamin Rush—"A Plan of a Peace-Office, for the United States" (1792). David Bradley's near epic introduction contextualizes Rush by reimagining an intriguing chapter of the nation's past, challenging our understanding of the place of race in the making of the nation, and reconceiving the meaning of war and peace in the nation's imaginary.